Future Needs in Climate Modeling: Aerosol-Cloud Interactions

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- emergent quantities
 - precipitation
 - radiative fluxes
 - others

Aerosol-Cloud Interactions

What is required to solve "the problems"?

intensive field experiments

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 - detailed case studies
 - cloud-scale modeling
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 - example: GEWEX Cloud System Study (GCSS) program
- observational statistical quantification attempts not enough!
 - disentangling microphysics and dynamics too complex
 - easily misleading (cause, effect?)
 - ship tracks only in shallow marine Sc (mesoscale response?)
 - models generally required for quantification
 - and for climate prediction (parameterization development)

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 - seasonally ice-free Arctic, Greenland melting, sea level rise
 - tools for comparing costs (sea walls versus reactors)
 - aerosol indirect effect bar charts lose significance, magnitude?
 - aerosol effects = what prevented early detection?
 - precipitation and regional climate prediction gain importance
 - long-term goals: understand cloud physics, make GCMs work



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 - aerosol-cloud coupling appears strongest in warm (low) clouds
 - aerosol variability is high vertically but low horizontally
 - cloud variability is high in both directions
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- what does this mean?
 - we need high vertical resolution to lowest altitudes
 - we need high horizontal resolution
 - "high resolution" = order 10-100 m
 - we need to aim for aerosol number size distribution
 - we need ground-based data (sub-cloud aerosols, dynamics)
 - we'd like to know LWP, N_d , and precipitation to 0.1 mm/d



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- some general issues
 - radar resolution crucial (orbit height)
 - single beam sufficient for wide homogeneous clouds
 - but scanning radar would boost statistics enormously
 - multiple-beam lidar offers similar advantages
 - single beam can miss horizontal structure
 - how will dry aerosol NSD be cornered?



Aerosol-Cloud Interactions

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- "simulator" studies (let's get together)
 - German HALO aircraft instruments
 - DOE ARM ground-based radar facility
 - ESA EarthCARE mission



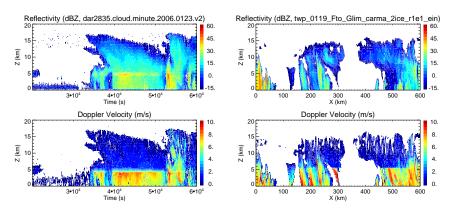
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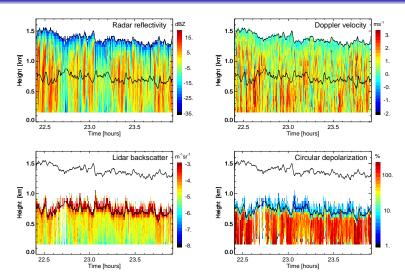
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 - stick to field experiment case studies
- not a cure-all
 - still need clear scientific questions
 - still face trade-offs
- part of the future (and ACE?)
 - doesn't need to be expensive or time-consuming
 - basic technology in hand (e.g., Quickbeam)
 - same technology useful for later science

2.8 GHz Radar (S-Band) Reflectivity + Doppler Velocity



Source: Data courtesy Christopher Williams (NOAA), DOE ARM data archive

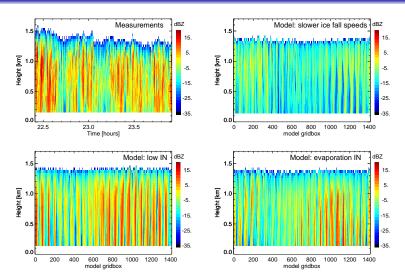
94-GHz Radar (MMCR) and Lidar (HSRL)



Source: Data courtesy DOE ARM and Ed Eloranta / U. Wisc.

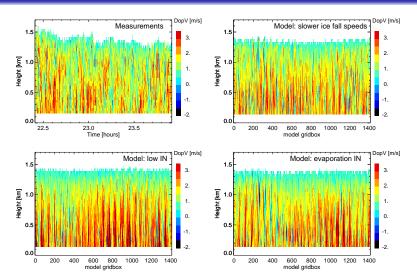


94-GHz Radar Reflectivity



Source: QuickBeam (http://reef.atmos.colostate.edu/haynes/radarsim/), Bastiaan van Diedenhoven / NASA GISS

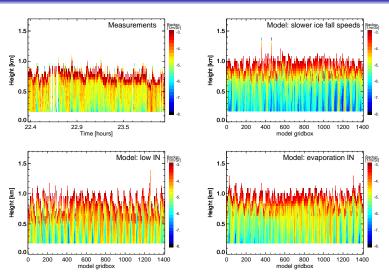
94-GHz Radar Doppler Velocity



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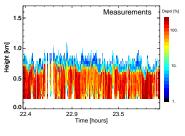
Lidar Backscatter Cross-Section

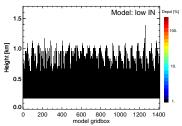


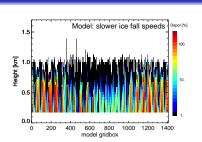


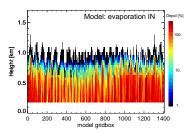
Example 2: Mixed-Phase Arctic Cloud Experiment

Lidar Circular Depolarization





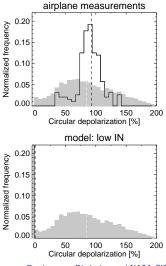


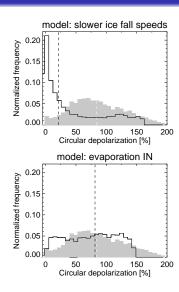


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 - focused field experiments (solve problems)
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- future
 - GCMs more like CRMs
 - integrated view of aerosols, clouds, precipitation
 - focus on regional-scale climate and precipitation
 - field-constrained CRM results for mission design

